Daily Word

NITY PUBLICATION

Pray with Silent Unity

PEACE . . . Let liberty, justice, righteousness, and peace be established throughout the world, in the name of the Lord Tesus Christ.

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PRAYER FOR WORLD LEADERS: Through the Christ Mind you are unified in thought, purpose, and understanding, and inspired to right action for the good of all manking

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: Christ in me is my hope of glory! My mind is illumined, and I am awakened to new spiritual vision.

PRAYER FOR PROSPERITY: Christ in me prospers my affairs. His rich gifts open new avenues of supply.

PRAYER FOR HEALING: The glory of the living Christ renews and perfects me. My mind and body are radiant with health.

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DAILY WORD

Edited under the inspiration of Silent Unity

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The Christmas Spirit

JAMES DILLET FREEMAN

VERY holiday has its own special spirit. Easter is a day of triumph. Thanksgiving is a day of praise. New Year's Day is a day of hope. But the day that has the warmest, brightest spirit of all is Christmas.

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What is the Christmas spirit? It is a sense of the wonder of things. It is the spirit of faith in life. It is a sense of the joy of living. It is the spirit of good will. It is the Christ Spirit in man.

This is the Christmas spirit, a sense of the wonder of things. It is fashioned out of the age-old wonderful story whose setting is the stable of a little inn in Bethlehem, the story of oxen kneeling in the stalls, of choirs of angels singing in the heavens, of "wise men" following a star, of shepherds coming down from their hills to adore a newborn child. It is fashioned out of the bright, preposterous dreams of a boy as he falls asleep on Christmas Eve, listening for the silver sound of sleigh bells and the click of fairy hoofs across the housetops. It is fashioned out of the glitter

ing magic of the Christmas tree. It is the realization that life, no matter how prosaic and full of care it may seem to be, is wonderfully strange and strangely wonderful and has always a mystical beauty and passion and joy for him who seeks with a receptive heart.

This is the Christmas spirit, the spirit of faith in life. Someone has said, "There is not enough darkness in all the world to put out the light of one small candle." Christmas is candlelight. It is the faith that life and light will win the ultimate victory. It is the faith to perceive how in the

lowly heart of a man God may be born!

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This is the Christmas spirit, a sense of the joy of living. It is fashioned out of love and laughter, out of children's toys, out of tinsel and mistletoe and holly wreaths and greeting cards, out of the carols that boys sing in a snowy night. It is the angelic host proclaiming "good tidings of great joy." It is the church bells ringing out to say that Christ is born!

This is the Christmas spirit, the spirit of good will. It is a spirit of participation; for one cannot bury Christmas in himself but must share its faith and love and joy with others. It is the giving of gifts. It is the vision of peace on earth, of the brotherhood of man. It is the prayers that men and women say for one another. It is the

hope everlasting, the faith that never fails in the Christ Spirit in man.

This is the Christmas spirit, the Christ Spirit in man. It is the life eternal made incarnate in us. It is the love of God in the cradle of our heart. It is the heavenly light at which our mind is lit. It is the beauty that surpasses form. It is the peace that passes circumstance. It is the courage stronger than our fears. It is the glory greater than all grief. It is the truth of our divinity.

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Once it was said of men's hearts, "There was no room . . . in the inn." In a world where there is so much that is alien to the Christmas spirit, let us cherish it this year. Let us keep it not only for ourselves but for all those who cannot keep it. When we keep Christmas, we are keeping a light alive, a spiritual light that must never be allowed to go out. Celebrated at the year's ebb, in winter's darkest days, Christmas is man's answer to all darkness, his jubilant, triumphant answer.

The Editors of DAILY WORD join Mr. Freeman in believing that "when we keep Christmas, we are keeping a light alive, a spiritual light." Throughout this coming year we will keep Christmas by sharing with you our faith in God, our love of good, and our joy in living.

You Are a Part of the Story of Unity

Myrtle Fillmore. The name Unity came to Charles Fillmore as a divine inspiration. Unity. Unity with God. Unity with man. Unity, the spirit that binds us together in love.

Unity's purpose has never been to found a new creed or sect. Its purpose has been, and still is, to bring the living Truth to all people. Unity is non-denominational, it is for all. Through its literature, through its prayers, Unity has brought help and healing to people in every walk of life, to people of all faiths and all nationalities.

There are now millions of readers of Unity literature. Who are these readers? There are people everywhere who are readers. No one has to identify himself as a member of Unity in order to read its literature. The fact that he reads it and prays with faith makes him a member of the household of faith. Letters come into Unity School daily from people of all faiths and religions, and from people with no church affiliations, with no formal religion. What Unity has recognized is that all men are seeking to find a meaning in life that they somehow sense is there,

that they are seeking to find the answer to their hopes and dreams. Unity teaches people that the Spirit of God is in them. Unity teaches that the Bible is a living story about people that they can read and interpret and make a vital part of their experience. Unity teaches that religion is not just a one-day-a-week experience, but the essence of life itself. Unity teaches that religion is consciousness.

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Unity promotes oneness, oneness among all men, oneness among all churches. It never points out differences, never argues, is never on the defensive. Unity believes that what is true will stand, that it needs no defense. Unity believes that what is not true cannot stand, though all the arguments in the world be made for it.

Unity is now a world-wide movement. Unity is changing the world because Unity is changing individuals. More and more people are finding a new thought about life, a new sense of oneness with God and man because of Unity.

Unity serves in many, many ways. It serves primarily through its literature, which goes out to millions of people. Unity literature is translated into many languages and goes into practically every country in the world. Through Unity's Silent-70 Department free literature goes to persons who cannot afford it and to most of

the prisons, hospitals, and other institutions of the United States. Wherever there is a request for Unity literature, wherever there is a need for it, it is sent forth freely and lovingly.

But the greatest service that Unity gives is the service of prayer. Silent Unity, the prayer department of Unity, has through the years stood as a citadel of prayer. It is the light in the window that never goes out; it is the heart of the Unity work. From all over the world requests for prayer come into Silent Unity. And Silent Unity prays, not in the sense that it has some power that is unique, but rather with the knowledge that the only power is of God, it is God who does the healing work. Because of the sense of love and oneness that has poured forth from Silent Unity, a unity of Spirit exists, and people who have never been to Silent Unity, who have never seen anyone from Silent Unity, have a feeling of being a part of the family. There is a way of knowing with the heart and the spirit that is more real than actual acquaintance with others. When we are one in spirit with another we feel a friendship that is real and lasting. This is the way people feel about Silent Unity. It is good to know, in a world that sometimes seems uncertain, that there is a place where someone is always praying, that there is a place where the light never goes out. In the darkest night we can know that Silent Unity is praying, that it is keeping faith with the one Presence and the one Power that heals and blesses.

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But Unity is more than Unity Headquarters at Lee's Summit, Missouri, it is more than Silent Unity, it is more than the Unity Centers that now number over two hundred. Unity is you. You are a part of the story of Unity. Every person who has ever found help in Unity, every person who has found new inspiration and faith through Unity, every person who has demonstrated Truth in his own life is a vital and important part of the story of Unity.

You are a part of the story of Unity, you are a reason for the continuing success of the Unity work. Unity is, after all, an idea. Unity is a spiritual idea. And ideas become realities through our thinking about them, using them, putting them into practice, making them a real and vital part of our lives. This is what you are doing for Unity. You may think you need Unity. Well, Unity needs you. You are a part of the story

of Unity. You are the story of Unity.

Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up . . . will draw all men unto myself." As we seek the Truth for ourselves, we cannot help but become a center of blessing for others. The more we practice the principles of Unity in our own lives, the more help we are to others. For Unity does something to people. Unity people are recognized everywhere, even when others are not quite sure what it is that makes them different. Unity people are the ones who are harmonious, who are loving, who are tolerant, who are kind, who are healthier and happier than most. Unity in action makes us different persons. It gives us a feeling of oneness with all people. And Unity also gives us a way to help people. Unity shows us how we can pray for others.

With faith centered in God, with the knowledge that we are children of God, unified in the Christ Mind, we are a living church. The Church of Christ is a spiritual idea. It is not an outer place of worship but an inner shrine, the common unity of all who pray. This is Unity, this is the household of faith. This is your Unity!

ATTENTION REGULAR SUBSCRIBERS

The heavy holiday mail often causes delay in magazine delivery during the Christmas season, so the January issue of your Unity periodicals may be slow in reaching you. But practically no mail is lost in this seasonal rush, and we shall appreciate your waiting patiently for the January issue of YOUR magazine to arrive.

Thank you for your patience and co-operation!

Let Your Heart Listen

A Meditation

YOU ARE My beloved child. Out of My own self have I created you. My life is your life; My breath is your breath; My Spirit is your spirit. There is nothing to fear, for I am with you, mighty in the midst of you. I am the life that heals you. I am the love that lifts your heart and sets you free. I am the wisdom of your mind. I am the light of your path. I am the peace of your soul. I am with you, dear child, through every hour of the day and the night, standing with you, upholding you, supporting you, revealing Myself to you and through you.

I am the love that will not let you go. I seek you out when you do not know how to reach Me. I speak in your heart to comfort you. I am the life of your body, and My life is perfect and

eternal. Trust Me. I am your health.

I am with you in all the experiences of your life. I am the power in you to understand; I am the power in you to forgive; I am the power in you to become.

Beloved, I am with you. Live in Me. Rejoice

in Me.

You are My beloved child.

AN INVITATION

FROM SILENT UNITY

Have you ever needed help greatly but did not know where to turn? We extend to you a most loving invitation to call on Silent Unity.

For the past sixty years Silent Unity has been praying and working with people from every walk of life.

We do not believe that anything is impossible or incurable. We keep faith with all who call upon us, for we believe in the power of God and in the power of prayer, and we know that God never fails.

If you need us, feel free to call upon us at any time. We may be reached day or night by telephone at BAltimore 1-4720, Kansas City, Missouri, or by letter at Silent Unity, Lee's Summit, Missouri.

To telegraph, address: Unity, WUX, Kansas City, Missouri. (The WUX code assures direct twenty-four hour connection to a teleprinter in our office.)

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I MAKE THE MOST OF TODAY, FOR IT IS GOD'S GIFT TO ME.

ODAY is one of God's miracles, and it represents the now. Today, not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today is mine—a miracle

given to me by my loving Father.

I recognize today for what it is, a new opportunity, and I am willing to let God guide me in the right use of this new opportunity. I do not bring into this day any so-called problems, mistakes, or failures that I may have found in yesterday. They are as waters that have passed away. All that I have left of them are the lessons I have learned and the growth these lessons brought me.

Today is filled with seconds, minutes, and hours, all intended and designed by God to make my life complete with joy, peace, plenty, success, health, and all the other good that I can need or want. Whatever tasks are mine today I will accomplish to the glory of God. I will make the most of today as I acknowledge God's loving presence, follow His divine inspiration, and give thanks for His rich blessings.

◆ Behold now is the acceptable time, behold now is the day of salvation.—II Cor. 6:2.

YOU ARE POISED AND CENTERED IN THE CHRIST MIND, AND NOTHING CAN DISTURB THE CALM PEACE OF YOUR SOUL.

ANY TIMES we see a great need for peace in the face of one we love or in the face of a stranger on the street. It does not matter whether that which is disturbing this person is a physical need, a material lack, or purely an imaginary problem. The important thing is that we have beheld the need and we have been quickened with the desire to help.

Words may not be acceptable, reasoning may be pointless, but prayer is always effective. A prayer like the one we are using today, spoken silently from the Christ in us to the Christ in the other person, will call forth the poise and the peace

that are needed.

Let us not question how prayer works; let us rejoice that it does work. As we pray we are one in Spirit. In this oneness of Spirit there is power, power to abolish the negative, whatever it might be, and to establish the fullness of good. So for the one in need, let us know the Truth and see him free.

^{*} Pray one for another .- JAMES 5:16.

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I AM TRANSFORMED BY THE CHRIST IDEA OF LIFE.

Thou art made whole." It is for me, the keeper of my body temple, to receive and accept this idea, to put it into effect, to build it into my body tissues. It is for me to affirm, "Yes, I am made whole."

Every atom and every cell of my body recognizes the source and authority of this healing idea and this healing word and conforms to this idea and to this word. I think no opposing thought. I speak no opposing word. I am in perfect accord with the Christ idea of life. I am made whole.

There is nothing less than perfection in me, for my indwelling Christ requires a perfect abiding place. Perfect order indwells my organs and helps them to function harmoniously. Perfect life moves through my limbs and makes them strong and supple. Perfect light quickens my faculties and renews my mind.

I am transformed by the Christ idea of life.

[♣] Be not fashioned according to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.—ROM. 12:2.

Thursday

IT IS NEVER TOO LATE. WITH GOD I CAN AL-WAYS BEGIN AGAIN.

O MATTER what has gone before, no matter how we may feel that we have failed, no matter how wasted we may feel that our lives or efforts have been, we stand this moment at a new place, at a point of beginning again.

Probably, the most important idea we can ever grasp is that there is only the present, the eternal now. What has gone before has no power over the present. This is the moment to begin. This is the moment to live. This is the moment to experience God. This is the moment to rise up into a new and living way.

Whatever our needs, whatever our longings, whatever our desires, now is the time to claim our good. Now is the time to reach for and to find the presence of God in our midst. Now is the time to open the doors of our minds and hearts to the light. Now is the time to set our feet on new paths. It is never too late to begin again. Now is the time.

[•] Forgetting the things which are behind . . . I press on.—PHIL, 3:13.

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Friday

I AM ONE WITH GOD. GOD WORKS THROUGH ME TO FULFILL HIS GOOD PURPOSES.

AM important to God. I live and work with a feeling of greatness and purpose in my heart. It does not matter what my daily duties consist of; it does not matter what my position in life is. I have something important to give.

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I let God work in and through me. My work is glorified, because I do it with the knowledge that "my Father worketh even until now, and I work." If I am not doing the thing that my heart longs to do, if I am not using my talents and abilities in the way that brings me satisfaction, I am not impatient with myself. If my life seems restricted I fill my mind with positive thoughts and my heart with divine love. I think of myself as living for God, working for God, and being one with God.

I know that everything I do is preparing me for a larger way of service. I live each moment with a feeling of purpose, because "My Father worketh even until now, and I work."

[♣] Let us work that which is good toward all men. —GAL. 6:10.

MY FAITH IN GOD MAKES ME SURE THAT ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR MY GOOD.

COMPLETELY trust my Father, God, and I willingly meet life and all that it holds. If there are times when I am not able to understand why I face certain experiences, I no longer find it necessary to fight these experiences. I do not waste energy in resistance to problems.

I stand firm in my faith that there is a divine plan that works in and through my life and I know that this plan is for my highest good. Instead of meeting experiences with fear, dread, or reluctance, I am now filled with confidence because I know that each event holds a blessing for me.

I pray for the vision to see and to recognize my good. If there are some things in my life that should be changed, my Father, God, gives me the wisdom, courage, and strength to make these changes. If my attitude needs to be changed He gives me the grace to see this and the flexibility to make the changes. As I work with my Father, He works with me and all is well.

 And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good.—ROM. 8:28.

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Sunday

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH AND LET IT BEGIN WITH ME.

You Ask, "How can peace begin with me? I am not a politician; I have no part in government. What can I do to establish peace?"

The most important thing you can do, of course, is pray. Then, almost equally important, you can develop a greater feeling of love in your heart for all people throughout the world.

Every time love is expressed it reaches from one person to the next person in an ever-expanding wave. Perhaps, you will have a very concrete opportunity to express love for someone of another land. You may visit his country or you may meet him when he is visiting your country. Your interest in him under such circumstances, your love, understanding, and humility will do much to strengthen the feeling of oneness among all persons.

Whenever you think of other countries and of other people, do not think about the things that separate you, but think of your oneness.

[♦] Love ye therefore the stranger.—DEUT. 10:19 (A.V.).

Monday

IN SILENCE I AWAIT DIVINE INSPIRATION. THEN, IN FAITH I STEP FORWARD.

AVE YOU ever felt that the resolving of some situation was dependent on your decision? Perhaps, you have felt that the responsibility of such a decision was more than you cared to assume. In such an eventuality it is well to remember that right and just decisions are God-directed, and through faith we receive this divine direction.

If we are not certain of the wisdom of a decision or if we are not familiar enough with all of the aspects of a question, let us remain silent. Let us reaffirm our faith in God as our guidance.

A decision prayerfully, carefully, thoughtfully made brings only good to everyone concerned. These words of Ella Wheeler Wilcox remind us of the wisdom of waiting in silence:

"If you have faith in God, or man, or self, Say so; if not, push back upon the shelf Of silence all your thoughts till faith shall come."

Now therefore, my sons, hearken unto me,
And depart not from the words of my mouth.

—PROV. 5:7.

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Tuesday

MY DESIRE TO GIVE QUICKENS ME WITH A NEW SENSE OF GOD AS MY PROSPERITY.

HE LOVE in our heart for our dear ones, both family and friends, gives us the desire to remember them and to show them our special appreciation at Christmas time. We know there are many ways of doing this. But if the way we choose is through the giving of gifts, let us remember that God is the provider of our prosperity.

When we seek God's guidance first, and His direction in the right use of the substance we have, we find there is plenty for our needs. As we do our Christmas shopping, let us remember that it is the thought expressed by the gift and the suitability of the gift that are important, not the price tag.

A gift lovingly and thoughtfully selected, a gift that does not leave the giver with a sense of burden, is the gift that will bring delight to the heart of the receiver. Always where there is reliance on God for our prosperity and our guidance, our desire to give will be fulfilled.

[♣] God shall supply every need of yours.—PHIL. 4:19.

"OPEN MY EYES, THAT I MAY SEE GLIMPSES OF TRUTH THOU HAST FOR ME."

HINK about these words as a blessing for your eyes. Close your eyes and relax and rest in the thought of God's presence with you. Say to your indwelling Lord, "Open my eyes, that I may see." With your eyes still closed, think of what it means to open your eyes.

Your vision is first of all spiritual. You see with the inner eye before you see with the outer eyes. Think of your inner vision; think of the power to perceive that God has given you; think of the light that shines through your eyes. Think of your eyes as perfect organs of perfect sight. Feel relaxed in your eyes; feel the healing power of God at work in them. Give thanks now that your eyes are perfect, that they are healed, that your vision is clear, unclouded, unimpaired, strong.

To bless your eyes every day in this way will not only keep them strong and healthy, but will also increase your spiritual vision, your capacity for seeing the Truth, for discerning the perfect.

[♣] Open thou mine eyes .- PSALMS 119:18.

Thursday

THE PEACE WHICH PASSES ALL UNDERSTAND-ING STRENGTHENS AND COMFORTS MY HEART.

HERE IS a holy Comforter with us, even as Jesus promised. This holy Comforter, the Christ which is within our being, speaks to us in time of bereavement saying, "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be fearful." "Lo, I am with you always." The holy Comforter within us brings the peace which passes understanding to our mind and heart and fills us with a strength and an assurance that nothing in the outer can give.

We never have to meet anything alone; we are never left desolate. The Comforter is always with us to transform mourning into joy and to bring to our remembrance the words of Jesus, "I am the resurrection, and the life." We do not grieve or mourn for those who are alive in God, and our faith tells us that there is no death, that life is eternal, that there is never any separation from God or from His unchanging love.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall guard your hearts and your thoughts.—PHIL.
 4:7.

I KEEP MY THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS CEN-TERED IN GOD.

ost of us have some realization of how responsive our bodies are to our thoughts and our feelings. We know from experience what happens to our blood pressure when we are angry or afraid; we know what happens to our digestion when we are depressed or emotionally disturbed. We know from experience that to think of ourselves as tired and weak is to begin to feel tired and weak.

We know, too, from experience how a light heart can bring a sense of well-being, how a confident feeling can calm the emotions, how joy and peace in the mind soothe and heal the

entire body.

Jesus said, "If ye know these things, blessed are ye if ye do them." When we know how closely related our health is to our thinking and feeling, we can follow no other course than to work to keep our thoughts and feelings constructive. In every situation where we would ordinarily be anxious or disturbed, we can train ourselves to stand strong in the Lord and remain centered in God.

[♣] In nothing be anxious.—PHIL. 4:6.



Let no step crackle on the snow, Let all be still as candle glow, For I am listening tonight Far out across the fields of light, Where from the heavens seems to ring, Sweet to my heart's imagining, The echo of a far-off tone That swells in rapture all alone, Now soft and faint, now loud and strong, As if it were an angel's song-The silver sounding of a horn That shook the world when Christ was born, And drifted down to men below Almost two-thousand years ago. Oh, may it be that since His birth There dwells a music not of earth. As fine, ethereal, and thin As swaddling cloths they wrapped Him in? May it not be, through time and space,

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ome, stand beside me on the hill, nd listen long-and listen still.

GOD'S LOVE, MIGHTY IN THE MIDST OF ME, ADJUSTS AND HARMONIZES MY LIFE AND ESTABLISHES ME IN PEACE, ORDER, AND GOOD WILL.

ANY TIMES we want to establish harmonious relations with other persons but we do not wish to be imposed on.

We resist what we consider unfair or unkind treatment.

When we surrender ourselves to God's love, we find that, regardless of the many differences we may have with others, there is a way to understanding, there is a point of agreement. When we determine to let God's love adjust differences, something very wonderful happens to us. God's love expressing itself through us is a mighty magnet unfailingly drawing to us the fair, kind treatment we wish to give to others.

Jesus knew how workable, how practical the application of love is to the lives of men. He proved that there is no limit to the adjusting, harmonizing power of love in action.

♣ Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart... Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.—MATT. 22:37, 39.

THERE IS ONLY ONE PRESENCE AND ONE POWER IN MY LIFE AND IN THE UNIVERSE, GOD, THE GOOD OMNIPOTENT.

NE POWER only! One Presence only! I remind myself of this again and again. When appearances seem to deny this, when it seems that some evil or destructive power is at work, I will not waver in my faith; I will not loose my hold on my belief in God and God only.

I know that since God is the only presence and the only power at work in my life, then there is nothing that cannot be changed; there is no need that cannot be met; there is no condition that

cannot be transformed.

By declaring the one Presence and the one Power and by holding to this conviction, I am able to face every issue of life unafraid and undaunted. I am able to believe all things and to rejoice in all things. I am able to overcome all things. God is in all and God is good. I stay with this idea and I prove how true it is in everything that comes to me.

[♣] Jehovah reigneth; let the earth rejoice.—PSALMS 97:1.

I LIVE IN THE MIDST OF ABUNDANCE, I HAVE SUPPLY FOR MY EVERY NEED.

Your care. I let go of anxiety or concern over my affairs, for I know that You are

with me and there is nothing to fear.

Your presence in me is my unfailing source of supply, and I look to You, rather than to persons or to circumstances for my good. In the silence of prayer I commune with You; I place myself lovingly in Your care; I place all my needs trustingly in Your keeping.

I am open and receptive to Your guidance, to Your wisdom. I am willing to follow Your counsel; I am ready to work with You, to express Your Spirit in all that I think, in all that I do.

Lord, You are my supply, You are the prospering power within me. I know this; I believe this; I live in this realization. My mind is at peace; my heart is filled with joy; my life is rich; my way is clear.

[•] The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul.—PSALMS 23:1-3. (A.V.).

Tuesday

THE SPIRIT OF GOD IN ME CONSTANTLY BRINGS TO MY REMEMBRANCE ALL THE THINGS I NEED TO KNOW.

HAVE a good memory. Everything that I learn is retained and easily brought to mind whenever it is needed. The ever-active intelligence of God in me quickens my consciousness with the perfect idea for each moment of my life. I know all that I need to know to handle perfectly whatever task lies before me.

Through prayer I erase from my consciousness the belief that I forget easily, that I have a poor memory. I stop thinking and saying, "I cannot remember names and places." I affirm right now that every name, place, and other information that I need to remember is brought to my mind

swiftly and accurately.

I have no lapses of memory, no blank moments. I immediately know the right answers for every challenging situation or circumstance. Every problem is clarified.

The Spirit of God in me constantly brings to my remembrance all the things I need to know.

* The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance.—PSALMS 112:6.

I AM PATIENT WITH MYSELF, FOR I KNOW THAT GOD WOULD HAVE ME BE PATIENT AND UNDERSTANDING.

OD IS very understanding of me as I grow toward spiritual maturity. God does not expect me to act beyond my spiritual understanding, but expects me to do the very best I am capable of doing at the present moment.

No matter what challenges come to me, before I take an outer step I become still and turn within quietly seeking God's counsel. I can always be certain which is God's voice and which is my voice by the fact that His voice will never prompt me to do anything that will cause undue pressure or strain on me. For instance, if I desire healing but cannot seem to find wholeness through spiritual realization alone, God will guide me to use whatever outer means I need until I am strong enough to depend completely on His renewing, restoring life working in and through me.

I do not force my growth. I am patient with myself. I do the best that I am able to do, and God in His infinite love and wisdom works with

me so that I may always do better.

^{*} Teach me good judgment.—PSALMS 119:66.

Thursday

ORDER IS ESTABLISHED IN WEATHER CONDITIONS, AND PEOPLE AND PROPERTY ARE DIVINELY PROTECTED.

F WEATHER conditions indicate a need to make changes in our plans, we can pray for order and for protection. In this way we will be adding the weight of our positive thought to the situation at hand, and there will be a right outworking.

When we stay in a state of upset and alarm because of the weather, we do not add to the pleasantness of our dispositions or of our days. As we pour out a blessing on weather conditions we release all tension and concern and maintain

a poised and calm spirit.

Let us go about our work, our shopping, our visiting, our traveling, knowing that there is a Spirit in us that gives us adaptability. If weather conditions demand that we make changes, we will be able to do so easily, swiftly, wisely, and with joy. Let us never become so bound that inclement weather can dampen our spirits. When the Son of God shines within, the sun shines!

She is not afraid of the snow for her household.
 PROV. 31:21.

I PRAISE AND GIVE THANKS FOR THE HEAL-ING SPIRIT OF GOD NOW MIGHTILY AT WORK IN ME AND IN ALL PERSONS.

HE HEALING Spirit of God is everywhere present. The harmonizing activity of God is everywhere present. I joyously acknowledge this healing, harmonizing power wherever I find it.

I give thanks for God's cleansing, vitalizing life that is flowing throughout every part of my body, renewing, restoring, and constantly recharg-

ing my body with new life.

I give thanks for God's healing touch that reaches through the loving hearts and consecrated hands of physicians, nurses, and all others who come to the aid of persons who are in need of help.

I give thanks for the life-giving, strength-building elements that come to me through the Godgrown, energy-filled foods that grace my table.

I give thanks for the rest that refreshes my body and the wholesome recreation that keeps it buoyant and free.

I give thanks to God for His healing Spirit.

♣ I am Jehovah that healeth thee.—Exon. 15:26.

I EXPRESS THE SPIRIT OF GOD IN ME. I AM A PARTAKER IN LIFE.

FERE IS a good word to think about if you feel friendless, lonely, or left out of L things. Partake!

What does it mean to partake? It means to take part, to share, to give something of yourself. There is always a need for partakers; there is always a place where something more can be added in the way of love, helpfulness, and understanding. Instead of wishing that others would consider you more, instead of wishing to be included in the lives or plans of others, think of what you have to share with others, of what you have to give, of how you may partake more in life.

You may begin in small ways to partake but you will find it easier and easier as you make the effort. For participation in life is natural to you. You belong. You are a part of the human family. You are bound to others with spiritual bonds of love. You are not separate from others but you are one with them in God.

You are a partaker in life.

· I in them, and thou in me, that they may be perfected into one .- JOHN 17:23.

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Sunday

I GLORIFY GOD'S GIFT, CHRIST WITHIN ME.

HEN WE were children, the birth of Jesus, the star, the Wise Men, their gifts all meant Christmas to us. Now, being grown, let us still think of these beautiful, wonderful things, but let us think, too, of the man this child became, the man who challenged all men when He said, "Ye are gods."

Jesus brought us the gift of the knowledge of the Christ within. He brought us the gift of light. "There is nothing covered up, that shall not be revealed." He brought us the gift of love. "Love the Lord thy God." "Love one another." He brought us the gift of faith. "Lord, increase our faith." He brought us the gift of satisfying substance. "He that cometh to me shall never hunger." He brought us the gift of eternal life. "Every one that beholdeth the Son . . . should have eternal life."

As we consider these gifts, as we experience them in our lives, how ready we are to lift our hearts and say, "Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift."

^{*} Thanks be to God .- II COR. 9:15.

GOD LOVES ME: GOD NEEDS ME.

If there seems to be inharmony or difficulty in my life, instead of wondering why I have to meet it, I will think of the power that is in me, which is able to meet all things and to overcome all things. I will look at my life at the place where I am and say to myself, "God needs me here. I can express God in this place. I can bring a blessing to the situations that seem difficult; I can bring God's peace where there is inharmony or confusion."

Every day I will remind myself that God loves me and that God needs me. I will no longer resist or rebel against the circumstances of my life, but filled with the love of God, strong in the faith of God, I will make a positive contribution to life, to the persons around me, to the events through which I pass each day. God loves me, needs me, and works in and through me in all that I do, in all that I think, and in all that I say. God is saying to me now, "I will bless thee . . . and be thou a blessing."

◆ Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.—JER. 31:3.

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THE PROTECTING PRESENCE OF GOD UP-HOLDS, INFOLDS, AND DIRECTS ME.

HE PROTECTING presence of God upholds me. My feet carry me surely, firmly, safely wherever I need to go. My every step is guarded and guided in the home, on the street, at my place of business.

The protecting presence of God infolds me. In whatever place I find myself, God is. He is with me as I pray. He is with me as I drive or ride in an automobile or an airplane. He is with me when I am doing my work. He is with me as

I am enjoying my time of leisure.

The protecting presence of God directs me. I now know whatever I need to know to maintain safety. I now do whatever I need to do to work in harmony with the law of protection. I am not impulsive, unthinking, or distracted. I focus my mind on that which is at hand and I am alert and thoughtful.

Just as the protecting presence of God upholds, infolds, and directs me, so does God's protecting presence watch over my loved ones and uphold,

infold and direct them.

♣ My presence shall go with thee.—Exon. 33:14.

Wednesday

THE SPIRIT OF EXPECTATION IS STRONG IN ME AND DRAWS TO ME ALL THAT IS GOOD.

If you are sitting by a Christmas tree, enjoying the glitter and promise of its beauty, let yourself be caught up in a spirit of expectation. If you are touched by the responsive heart of a child as he awaits tomorrow and its surprises, let yourself be caught up in his spirit of expectation. If the Christmas music, if the Christmas throngs, if the Christmas services stir you with a new understanding of the truth about yourself, let yourself be caught up in a spirit of expectation.

No matter who you are, where you are, what your need, expect the good. Expect wisdom. Expect healing. Expect abundance. Expect happiness. Expect freedom. Expect order. Expect peace.

Expect to be quickened. Respond heart and mind to the spirit of expectation. Give thanks before even one change occurs or one blessing appears.

Your expectation makes you a ready receptacle so that God's giving Spirit can rush in and can pour you out a blessing.

• For my expectation is from him.—PSALMS 62:5.

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I AM QUICKENED WITH A NEW UNDERSTAND-ING OF CHRISTMAS.

offer the reborn Spirit of Christ within me? Can I offer eyes that are prepared to look for the goodness of God in all men, circumstances, and conditions? Can I offer hands that are ready to serve in small ways, unrewarding ways, ways where there will be no glory, no renown? Can I offer feet that will walk in paths of peace and light? Can I offer a mind that is willing to lend itself to the solution of problems that will benefit mankind?

On this Christmas morning what can I offer the reborn Christ Spirit within all men? Can I offer the Christ Spirit a voice that sings of faith and joy and love and oneness? Can I offer the Christ Spirit my responsive co-operation in establishing the Father's kingdom here on earth? Remembering Jesus Christ, whose birthday we celebrate today, I find in my heart a new willingness to believe that I can do my part in making Christmas, not just a day in the year, but a way of living life.

♣ Christ in you, the hope of glory.—Col. 1:27.

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MY HEART IS FILLED WITH THANKSGIVING. I REJOICE AND I AM GLAD.

AILY I count my blessings and I realize anew that I am rich in the treasures of heaven. Daily I give thanks for the things that help me to keep my heart attuned to God. I find His presence in the manifold beauties of nature, in uplifting books, in good music, and in warm friendships that I share.

I give thanks for my material possessions. I recognize them as the Father's gifts to me. I give thanks for substance and I use it wisely and freely where it is needed, knowing it will be replenished

as my capacity for acceptance expands.

I give thanks for opportunities to serve, to speak words of cheer and encouragement, and to help others in making use of their talents and capabilities. I give thanks for those who have helped me to achieve some particular goal and for those who have helped me to recognize more fully the Christ in myself and in others as light, life, and perfection.

Oh give thanks unto Jehovah . . . Sing unto him, sing praises unto him.

—PSALMS 105:1, 2.

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I TRUST GOD. I LET HIS SPIRIT WITHIN ME DO ITS PERFECT WORK.

THE SAME Spirit that worked so perfectly through Jesus is working within everyone. Each person has this great gift, God's own Spirit, working in and through him to bring forth the kingdom of heaven here and now. Intrust the outworking of today's needs to God, expecting a perfect outcome, just as you expect and receive your next breath or your next heartbeat.

There is a perfect way, a right and happy answer for any problem. God in His infinite wisdom will light your way today. Let your will blend with the will of God; know that you are harmonized with His plan for your highest good.

Patiently give Spirit time to work for you. An answer to prayer holds great joy, whether or not it seems immediate to you. The time of fulfillment comes when it is best for you, and you will know that your every prayer is being fulfilled the moment you ask in the faith that accepts God's will as being done now. In this attitude of mind you let God's perfect work be done through you.

And let patience have its perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, lacking in nothing.—JAMES 1:4.

I SEE ALL PERSONS AS CHILDREN OF GOD AND I HAVE ONLY KINDNESS AND TOLERANCE IN MY HEART FOR EVERYONE.

Begin this day with the determination to have a loving heart. A loving heart looks beyond outer appearances to the Spirit of Christ within each individual, the Spirit that is working toward greater expression through him.

It is easy to be kind to another person and tolerant of his actions if you are aware of his feelings, if you understand what causes him to be as he is. Disapproval, anger, and impatience benefit no one. If you remember that deep within every person is the desire to be a happy, well-developed child of God, your own attitude will be one of love and compassion. Through love and compassion, you will be extending the helping hand that will enable him to express more of his God-given qualities.

Your faith in a person's goodness, your love, your kindness, and your tolerance help to quicken the desire in him to live up to your high expectations.

♣ Put on therefore . . . a heart of compassion, kindness . . . love.—Col. 3:12, 14.

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GOD IS HERE.

HERE IS no situation or condition in which God is not present. When we have something to meet, let us remember this. Let us say to ourselves, "God is here." When we say, "God is here" we are saying, "Life is here; love is here; supply is here."

There is no condition in mind, body, or affairs that is impossible or incurable, for God is present—the life at the heart of every cell, the power for good at work in every situation. Healing of mind or body and healing and harmonizing of affairs are accomplished not from without, but from within. As we let go and let God work through us, we become free and willing channels through which the healing power flows.

"God is here." Say this to yourself now and think about what it means. As you go about the activities of your day, keep these words close to your heart. "God is here." There is nothing to fear, for God is here, right with you, within you, life of your life, breath of your breath, spirit of your spirit.

^{*} The Lord is at hand .- PHIL. 4:5.

I AM WORKING FOR GOD, AND MY COMPEN-SATION COMES FROM HIM.

Or or his wealth of knowledge of men Charles Fillmore said: "The divine law demands progress, growth, and increasing ability on the part of everyone. Jesus taught this truth in the parable of the talents. The one who failed to increase his talent was condemned; his talent was taken from him and given to the one who had made the greatest increase in the use of his talents. 'For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not, even that which he hath shall be taken away.' This seems a hard law, but it is hard only to the lazy, careless, fearful man. Action leads to greater action; order, energy, and system increase efficiency.

"The worker who gives attention to the doctrine that Jesus taught, and strives to follow it in his work, never fails to achieve success. Do not compare yourself with others. Realize that you are working for God and that your compensation

comes from the divine exchequer."

[•] Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above.

—James 1:17.

I NOW LET GO AND LET GOD.

AM unfettered and unbound by past conditions and past circumstances. I bless all the wonderful days of this past year and I go forward into the new year, open and receptive to

the good that God has in store for me.

In my oneness with God I release all thought of sickness or imperfection. I am ready for new life. I release all thought of hate or hurt. I am ready for a new understanding of people and conditions. I release all thought of poor financial conditions. I am ready for a new outpouring of substance. I release all thought of myself as bound by environment, heritage, education, or race. I am ready for a great spiritual growth.

I now let go and I let God go before me as I step over the threshold of the new year. I do not look back with self-recrimination or with longing to remain in the past. I know that all that has gone before has prepared me for the new growth

that I am now ready to accept.

I now let go and let God's Spirit in me act as a mighty magnet to attract my good to me.

♣ Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee.—ISA. 26:3.

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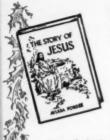
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mas. A helpful gift as well as a fascinating one, the book contains 14 vivid stories of Jesus' life, with illustrations by Herbert N. Rudeen. Price \$1.

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SCHOOL OF CHRISTIANITY LEE'S SUMMIT. MISSOURI

Christmas Is Our Brotherhood!

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Christmas is a toy drum beating, Fiat of a bright tin horn; Christmas is a cheery greeting On a chilly morn; Christmas is the morning after Snow has fallen on the town; Christmas is the sound of laughter Trampling darkness down; Christmas is life's silver lining, Candlelight, a wreath of holly; Christmas is a child's faith shining On a world of folly; Christmas is the Christ child born In the crowded hearts of men: Perfect love this winter morn Given us again! Miracle misunderstood.

Christmas is our brotherhood!

